

REAL TIGHT GRAY



ISSUE #2 HARDCORE PUNK EMO BEDROOM
REVOLUTION FLOWERGRAVE FOR LIFE/FREE

INTRODUCTION

EMO MELTDOWN: NOVEMBER 21, 2007 NOVEMBER 21, 2008. WHEN ROUTINE BITES HARD AND AMBITIONS ARE LOW... LOVE WILL TEAR US APART

There's a sleepless and restless stranger who roams around freely inside my body. A stranger who has the exact physical characteristics I have. His head never fail to stare down at the floor as if he sees another world in it. He likes to write but he procrastinated a lot. The grief he sense all the time is the basis why he transcribes his personal account. The gloomy excitement he's been happily carrying inside his being. He was absorbed and isolated himself from his peers he dreaded meeting. His sorrow consumed him a lot. His heart was broken. He is fully aware everybody knows the deal on that. He's been stagnant for an extensive confinement. He made his own revolution inside his bedroom. He knows he has to bargain with his issues and the fact he is alone on that bargain. He even missed to watch some gig. He felt not a single regret about it. He was always home. He is uncool. He is the king of self-pity. He has a lot of memories he stupidly will never forget. The street where they talked will remain in his thoughts. He returned all the grave things she has deemed as gifts. She left a lot of it causing an enormous of uneasiness. And lately he's been thinking not about what she said but what she did. He's been spending time looking out instead of in and decided to keep reminding himself begin means end. To himself, he lies. To her, he lies. No truth will be seen until he dies. He is aware he's on the loser side. He is taking advantage on the beauty of infinite melancholy. To say he is moving on as every dumb showbiz personalities used as an excuse he thought it means a huge falsehood. It's the same for him as he hides on the shadows of saying he moves on now even though deeply inside of him he is not. Now he is agitated by that conception. He justifies it. It's difficult to forget someone who was closed to you. It's not a habit that he can get rid of easily. He reflect it's unfair he doesn't have the right to get mad knowing she carries on holding a lot of grudges he is not aware of. No time to explain what it is. He deemed there's nothing to explain. He is the one to be condemned. No matter how hard he tried to save the connection there were no chance to hinder what happened to them. He likes to believe it was their fate. But he disagrees because he still believes he is in control of his life, his destiny. He continues to study what occurred to them and he devour when routine bites hard it will tear us apart (sounds familiar, eh? He swallow-up that good-looking people) they got no spine. Their art never lasts. He crave that the only true currency in this bankrupt world is what we share to someone when we are uncool. His desire seems lost. Is there a chance he thought that he can endure on this illustrious torment? To maintain his firmness? He imagines most people ten years from now same job, same place, same routine everything the same just keeps everything safe over and over. As he rest he picture there's plenty of ways to die. But he has to figure out a way to live. And he said to himself now that's hard. The day has come. The end has arisen. He was crushed. He was conquered. He can't feel anything. He confronts an evil. She never thinks twice from what she has cheated. Even if she is aware she will wound him in the process. How come there's a split like you? A lot of questions come to his mind. Where is your breeding? Where is your guilt? Where is your conscience? Would she think it will last forever? Is it real or is it a game? She will never know when the time comes. He freed the angel he enclosed in his world for three years. She is with someone else now. They both explore the pleasure. She wanted to fathom the pure thrill she's feeling for her. But he was the first one to exploit her from a mouthful of sensation over and over. Is that love you're touching now? Will it ever dwell? Would you think it will survive eternally?

ONCE AGAIN THE POWER OF THE HERBS OPENED UP MY MIND - CYPRESS HILL

Here I am now in front of our computer's monitor thinking about a topic that

would fit in this introduction. I am trying hard to make this subtle to make sure I am not wasting your time. Especially to produce a positive one since we are now in a cynical atmosphere. And to tell you the truth I find it damn hard, especially if you're having a writer's block. I had to reject the other essay I prepared for this because when I reviewed it all that I have composed was nothing but a shallow evaluation. It only contains a miserable criticism in our scene. Which I thought is not a constructive one coming from me who is included in this alternative we choose. It is easy to slag each other off because they doesn't live up to other's politics. Who would attack you from your vulnerability? So, what's with the fascination of writing negative thoughts? My ranting with the world is not fair. What is there about it? As if there is nothing good happens in my life. Is it because I don't easily get satisfied from what I have already. Maybe it is a normal reaction for a not-so-old-but-I-feel-like-I'm-aging punk kid. It's been a long time since the released of the first issue. A lot of rough things happened in my life. It started from the ending of the year 2007 and the whole year of 2008. I am always wishing that I still had the enthusiasm I felt when I first started to involve myself on the world of punk rock. Let alone the whole elevation I once grasped on making the first issue of RTC. I was away searching for myself. I have to sort myself out and gather the needed motivation. Assuming punk rock opened my eyes on the injustices roaming around freely in the world. Who taught me not to be controlled with the machines the system uses to manipulate my life. Don't I have the time to give myself a god damn break? I mean I can't break the fact I am still part of the system. No matter what I do. I like to quote The Joker when he told from one of the mobsters where he gets his scars on his face he said and asked him WHY SO SERIOUS. So, yeah seriously, why so serious? Why not substitute our serious faces with a smiling faces. Let's start to have fun once again. Let the fun aspect of punk dominates our scene. I think we already had the enough vision in our own personal politics. It's time for us to get the party started. I planned at first to edit this second issue on a cut and paste mayhem using my old typewriter. But it's not possible to do that since the bulk of the stuffs featured here will take up a lot of page if I continued on that format. The reason is I managed to retrieve some old issues of ANTI FANZINE from my uncle Nonoi's bedroom. It's a local fanzine existed during the 90s. After reading it I got a nostalgic feeling from the fanzine existed during that era. It's not only Anti Fanzine that inspired me. I recommend to you a couple of local fanzine namely I REMEMBER HALLOWEEN and BREAKFAST INSOMNIA. Check out my reviews for these publications. You may find certain stuffs featured here are a bit old. I've decided to still put it so the effort of the contributors will not get wasted and the topics expressed are still relevant on the present situation of the underground scene. My heartfelt apology goes out to all the contributors for they've become a victim of my laziness. Most especially to my cute friend Archi who work hard putting his priceless passion to make Real Tight Crew to be the dopest local fanzine in town. Speaking a while ago of gathering the needed motivation last November 2008 Death Wish Unit had the opportunity to play a gig in Cuerdas Bar to support a newly formed collective Flower Grave. Our friend Selo had organized this one. I consider this as our comeback from a long break. Well, at least for myself because I am the sole basis why our band suffered from a long silence. Also last January 13, 2009 we were also lined-up for the tour of Eskapo. I had a great time in there because I had an enormous chat with Sebastian and Lena while we were drinking some beers outside of the venue. That's all for now for this introduction. I'll try my best to accomplish my third issue right away to redeem myself. I've already gather some stuffs to be featured on that issue. I am sure it will totally blow your mind. Before I go I would like to thank these following persons namely Archi, Banjo and Mlong who are really supportive when I was down. I really appreciate it and thanks for the friendship you all shared with me even though I don't have the greatest attitude a man should possess but still you all accept me for what I am. JCS.

COLUMNS

Thoughts on space... (challenging/ changing spaces) "the project of power is global. It can't permit the existence of 'empty spaces.'" Our project of liberation is also global, for the opposite reason. It cannot allow "free spaces" not to exist. If were to allow capital to achieve global domination, we would be dead for good." - Alfredo Bonnano.

KRIST IT WASN'T A LONG TIME

AGO that the space you're in is explicable... turn 360 degrees and you have a circle of options ... choose any direction you want or move about 'freely' without something in the way. The limit (of course) is the ground we're walking in the sky that covers us all. City or the urban setting that we inhabit is an enclosure ... (a confinement/ to put something in an envelope/ parcel)... the concentration ... of power and domination is at the heart of every city. Hierarchy as its engine. Alienation as its manifestation. We become part of the crowd, lose our self & individuality on the process and call it "reality" property, central to the ideal of civilization is our glue... the binding agent that holds us in place. We are consumers of commodities. Our lives being the greatest commodity. Properties are reified and our surrounding is the moment of that achievement. With that thought... how can we enjoy this enclosure? "I was inside an aquarium. I can see the outside world. I could almost feel I'm there but the glass wall prevents me. Although I can roam around freely inside the aquarium, I cannot get out. But worst is I feel safe and the air I breathe feels natural." - Imagine how all of these are replicated in our society today. If the spaces we're accustomed to enclose and confines us...why do we declare them as inhabitable? Why with all the freedom (ironically!) parks, playgrounds, vacation packages/trips...it feels like everyday prison? If confinements presents itself open...an everyday illusion of freedom, how is it any different from the prison we abhor so much? Sometimes we dream of vast landscapes...of far off lands, pristine...sometimes it is captured by television and magazines. We yearn for it. Sometimes we feel the hurt of not experiencing, sometimes we're numb and convinced that we believe it doesn't exist. How can we tell? Maybe if we take a journey and find out for ourselves...progress disguise as "development projects," roads to success, economic leap etc. Is simply "turning rural setup to urban setting" or "turn it into a city and destroy everything in its way." It is conquering and colonizing everything. And sometimes masking it as rural for higher marketing value*. This is why we have tourist spots, travel agencies, vacation packages, wildlife tours and (the very atrocious!) indigenous exposures! What is so nice about killing indigenous/native people, destroying their lands/cultures/legacy putting them all in one place calling it museums with entrance fees of course! *(example would be...Sitio Kurehni, Dumagat indigenous ancestral land is currently facing this dilemma. Although the government and NCIP (National Commission on Indigenous People) already granted their domain claim, they still cannot occupy these lands as different individuals. While they're facing extinction, their ancestral land is facing the onslaught of "progress," with greedy individual and warring politician eyeing it as the haven for tourists and profits! Interestingly enough it is the nearest indigenous ancestral area to Metro Manila!) it won't be long that even the landscapes in our dreams will be conquered and turned into a city. Another replica of a death sentence of our existence. And since we're not aware of our alienation it is doubtful that we'd even care about our surrounding/ neighboring "rural" places/spaces being exploited and every bit of natural habi-

tat destroyed. Or even if we knew about it would we even care at all? To be conditioned into submission is an ongoing process. When you look around you, what you see are the products of consumption...your consumption or at least of someone you live with ...assuming that you have a house you live in or rent. They may not define who you are, but it will definitely take up some space. We're crammed already with small subdivided isolated compact cubicles that define and limit our movements. It doesn't matter whether you can move about freely within your space, but realizing others are packed like sardines and this is the same throughout the entire city. It seems really stupid to call that tiny space of ours when it's covering reality with boxes we put ourselves into. The less space we have, the more suffocated we are. With these in mind, it seems rational that the overpopulated "ghettos" or "squatted areas" overflow in the streets. And the new patterns of shifting schedule...the working day workers sleep at night while the space less housemate stay awake out on the streets and switch places when the morning comes. But you wouldn't such scenario create an "unstable" emotion for each individual? Certainly it would. Would the violent adolescents in constant riots with themselves explain it? Or with it be the tension of an impending disaster we feel everytime we walk within these compact spaces? Or isn't it the stench of surrounding? The scattered trash, malnourished kids running around, groups of pregnant mothers holding their two or three years old child playing bingo games while talking about gossips or telenovelas, or how about the unemployed men drinking in the afternoon? Or how about the structures that keeps us in place? Jaywalking isn't about the law. It's about us following a path provided for us all...a path for the crowd. We can't walk as individuals with unique attributes of our own. We have to be part of the crowd, of a flock who follows orders. Orders that are in place for us to be in our place, the way we should be placed...pacified, obedient citizens of this nation. The MMDA says it all...Metropolitan Manila Development Authority. They are the authority in the development process of this city in our country. Whatever methods (whether human or inhuman) must be executed to pursue and establish development...efficiently as possible. Out the door, ride to MRT, go through mall, maybe buy something, back to MRT, follow the pink fences (suspiciously resembling a chicken's cage) look at the billboards imposing its view on our eyes. And if the signs directing our steps weren't enough, we have their people telling us when, where and how to cross the streets and the disgusting loud speakers that shame us for not following the path/walkway they've constructed for us! It's not enough we follow rules or "the law" we must obey their every command! The control of the physical space is also a control for us. But does it stop there? No. The bombardment of ads, billboards...even the graffiti's are covered with the "pacifying" shapes of colors or 'modern artwork' on every wall in sidewalk, street corners etc. It's not enough that there are cops and guards surrounding every known major street intersection or each street corner with 7-11, McDonalds or other branded stores permanently occupying that space...you have to have permission to gather there amongst your friends! (eh...calibrated preemptive response?)* or meeting our friends inside shopping malls, outside McDonalds/7-11 since there are no more spaces we can meet that they haven't occupied. Occupied territory...sounds like Palestine. Really scary...*(this is state's reaction to mass mobilization, a legal way to stop ongoing street mobilization with military/police intervention. It's very simple get a permit to mobilize in the streets. If you do not have it we will use "force" to stop your mobilization. And we all know what they mean by force!) Waiting in line to buy ticket to ride the MRT...waiting in an aisle to pay for the groceries at the supermarket...waiting inside the bus/ jeepney stuck in traffic...waiting in line to withdraw from ATM centers...waiting for

our turn to pay MERALCO/MAYNILAD bills...waiting for the next call while we wait for break/lunch...a series of activities in waiting. It's not that we don't question it or we don't feel that feeling of despair or less of something wonderful in our lives, it's just that we're accustomed and conditioned to these patterns we can't even imagine going out the streets and finding out there's nothing outside. Our homes, our houses are built as small spacecraft ready to go to space equipped with all the canned goods for eating and television to entertain us. We look ourselves inside, staring outside with the omnipresence of the "occupants" of our once-free spaces. Our surroundings blindly the conditioning process we undergo everyday. And as every land cemented, we lose our grounding. And as our senses altered with daily advertisements, we lose our ability to think. We are in a limbo...not grounded and floating with thoughts of senseless harmful products of consumption. It all seems really hopeless. A desperately weakened attempt to describe our patterns of living and the path we're all headed. When the physical space is occupied and every aspect of our lives controlled, there isn't much to go on or any desire left to pursue any dreams we may have had. The promise of disaster...the hope of collapse...but alas...there is hope...when nature strikes back, no one is spared. Hurricane destroys cities. Floods destroy marked places. Earthquake destroys monuments, buildings, permanent constructions. And natural calamities destroys our "ego," our ego of progress...that everything built is permanent...and once physically permanent it is established as correct, fact or reified forever. Even our concepts of space are destroyed. What was once a scenery of order is now a space of options. A stamp of permanence changed instantly with a blink of an eye! The desperation is present. When details of our alienation is described, we immediately cry, it's a given. We've known that for quite some time now, and with that...we close our discussion. End of story. The article aims to question our environment, to ask ourselves the details of our movements, of our steps and even to ponder how far our physical spaces and our thoughts/ minds have been colonized/controlled. It wants to ask us is there really a synchronized pattern of our daily activities? Is the physical occupation as well? We tend not to discuss these questions. We opt to avoid being confronted with our nightmares. The anarchists have assumed they've studied it all and refuses in-depth analysis and proceeds with their version of liberation. The leftists details its existence but opts for a totalitarian solution, haven't they realized that what we have already is a mistake and have to be changed? While the overpaid liberals, democrats, civil/moral majority or let's just call them "rockstars" for easier comprehension, since all of them wants the center stage and the limelight however sharp, unique or insightful their actions may be. The theory here is simple. A careful self-experiential, non-compromising, global analysis of our present "spaces" will give us options for new, uncharted, spontaneous, crazy solutions that none of us tried before. There's no such thing as one solution or quick fix, but there are unlimited, untried-yet options for all of us. We cannot just destroy the spaces that imprison us all or smash the global order. There are answers beneath our ability to question and pursue our desires. Let's get going.

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HUMAR

AFTER BEEN INACTIVE IN THE DIY SCENE I am ecstatic how our scene amazingly grows faster. Before if you play crust music or just simply raw thrashy music with then pop-punk/old school pinoy style punk audience you will get an outstanding culture shock from their eyes, few people may comment that you play awesome with a lot of intensity but mostly they categorized you as a death or thrash metal band, fucked up isn't it! It was really amazing playing with Sampcore Collective even before you can see more crust/grind/anarcho punk bands and attendees as well as then active Punks Not Thugs Collective based at Taguig that once organized a Manila Crustcore benefit gig last quarter of 1997 and not to be step aside is the energetic DIY punks from Far South Resistance Collective based at Lucena City, which is always an ally of Sampcore people because of same interest, ideas and hard arse alcoholic stance. And some of them became part of the Sampcore community. Punks Not Thugs Collective and Sampcore Collective were also responsible for bringing in autonomous groups like Food Not Bombs, Earth First!, PETA and SFAPP. With Food Not Bombs Manila that first introduced free food feeding for prisoners at Taguig Municipal Jail which was very congested and had a poor living condition and followed by weekly free lugaw feeding at Recto and sometimes at Luneta. And also we were the first to coordinate with PETA for more educational materials about vegetarianism and animal rights. We were also able to coordinate and talk with the ambassadors of UAE and Malaysia about the PETA's clamor on Halal way or more humane slaughtering of cows in their respective Islamic country. Also

Also with the help of Greenpeace UK we launched a Metro manila wide anti-McDonald quick demo and leafletting. With Earth First! we were able to work with indigenous people and research and information dissemination on factors affecting ecological destruction like mining concession, mountain resorts and theme parks, building dams, genetically modified plants/crops plus more. We were also active with Ramos to Estrada regime. Now with Punks Not Thugs Collective got inactive for some reasons but still Sampcore here is still fucking alive and kicking everybody's arse. Maybe because most of the remnants got their own job and their own family. Having a job here in the Philippines is a fucking mess because either you either work on a graveyard shift or a regular day with only one day-off or sometimes 10 hours a day. But some still went to mass demo once in a while and some still active participating with Food Not Bombs Manila but still Sampcore are actively organizing film showing, political/social discussion hosting foreign friends especially European, organizing DIY gigs and most especially drinking sessions with Heineken "da Buracho" and Alvin as always the host hehehe. Unfortunately some good 90's Metro Manila crustcore and grind bands were not able to record or release a decent pro quality stuff. Like Moral Rot, Cessation Of Repression, Terror Rust, Lie Detector, Alcoholocaust, Destruction Of Trust, Grind Department and Valta Kansalle. Disabuse and Paracraft were able to released a demo but still not at par with good pro-quality recording. They are also the only remaining 90's bands exists as of today though former members of Lie Detector started a new crustpunk band Co-Arse. Those previous gigs I've attended were great examples of growing crust/grind/thrash prowess in Manila nowadays. Before we were dreaming of Manila to be like Upsala, Sweden or Minneapolis or Portland in US. Thanks for the hardworking people of Radiation Area they made it happen. Although there are so many critics of Radiation Area info/punk shop (as expected) Darwin and the rest of the crew and volunteer tambay of the shop just keeping aside the critics and just making an amistice to make the scene better and greater. You can be hardly impressed with those anarchist wannabe that hide their own identity by using guestbook and blog to criticize and gave only their baseless anger on bootleg CDR consignment price. This self-proclaimed anarchist kid must know that we will not go far if we are a greedy profiteer just like what he is thinking. We have been in the scene for almost a decade now. Sampcore Collective is a decade old now organizing gig, diy/libertarian forum, plus other diy activities. If we are what you think then why still friends from Kopsi squat Germany, anarchist from France and Netherlands, libertarian from US/Canada still keep on coming back and packing all the good thing back home in the Philippines including pinoy punk hospitality. We encountered a lot of people like you and some of them just disappeared because they were just riding in the scene and not really active or just being a leech of the scene, we know a lot of people like that for many years and keep ripping off foreign friends and visitors. We saw before the ups and downs of the scene and if a place like Radiation Area will disappear the scene will get slow down. Why don't we unite and forget those backstabbing people. We have been left behind by our neighbor country like Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore because of their enthusiasm in the diy scene. When I was there I saw how the scene there grows like a wildfire, there are tons of releases everywhere. I've been to Jimbo's house at Johor Bahru suburb and I'm amazed with his loads of stuff. He's been releasing pro tapes and CDs for a couple of years now. My experience there was really unforgettable except for the hostility of Malaysian Immigration that nearlybusted me out after we jumped from Singapore to Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Thanks to Hasib for helping me a lot. The people of Johor Bahru was really great I can compare them with Sampcore diy people. They were very accomodating and fun to be with. They were talking there about some Japanese bands touring regularly like Unholy Grave, Power Of Idea, Battle Of Disarm without crossing the Philippines. I told them the reason why Japanese bands kept avoiding Philippines during their Southeast Asian tour. But for me you cannot call it Southeast tour if Philippines is not included in your itinerary. Maybe the reason is because of media bullshit attention on terror in Sulu archipelago? Or maybe because of some pinoy punk asshole who ripped off some of them and they might generalized all Filipino as rip-off. Now that Radiation Area info/punk shop was closed many will probably think that Sampcore days are over now especially those infoshop distractors. No we're not bro. This make us more fucking strong and better so please watch out for more to come from Sampcore Collective. The unlawful closure made by Cartimar management give us more persistence and perseverance to look more further and a lot of plans will be made as soon as possible. All support will be highly appreciated because we need a relentless and hard arse working diy people like you. Free one mucho bottle of Red Horse for you cheers. paraconflict@yahoo.com

ARCHI

You're not free it's a lie; You're
not free until you die -
HUMUNGUS

I AM NOT SURE IF THAT'S THE
exact line from the chorus of

that song which was written by Nikki Sicks entitled "Freedom Does Not Exist." But I am very sure that we are forever captive by this circuit of deadness, we are like a herd of bloated corpses waking up everyday hoping to catch a better life on every command of our monster superior. After the drama of the economic crisis with the screenplay of corporate media which the government's nerve for calling the masses to make a necessary "sacrifices" and continuous soulful prayer to overcome this trial with the help of the impaired unseen god, to rescue from the feet of imperial trend known as world market. Sacrifices? What do they know about that? We have been here for so long and still living like hell by the sorrow that they put upon us critical masses while these fat ass big bosses and government scumbags masturbate on our misery and bleed our asses to work, as they taxes us on our income and what we buy (lucky you if you're a parasite or a rich kid who still hangs on the cradle of their parents). I have read news about the letter of a Korean student who happens to notice the situation of our beleaguered country as he visits here as a tourist, my heart weeps when he said how much he and his mother cried for our fellow Filipinos as they see people living in scrawny places, pale in starvation, but I pity him when he comments that the reason why people here suffer penury it is because the lack of faith in God and our disloyalty to our country. He did not know that the root cause of this daily peril is the rampant corruption in our public offices, mournful debts of the past dead regimes and the majestic rule of the U.S. government to our bogus sovereignty. But I am going to take the blame individually. I have no faith in ghost divinity that is blind to see the violence of poverty and deaf to hear our cries, scream for terror of everyday madness. I am not loyal to this country because of its border and to the state that stands for oppression for I desire a community that is shared by love, peace, equality (dream on). This aspiration will still hang on our illusions until humanity is willing to surrender their excesses for selfish reasons. It is almost 20 years now since the strong man has been stomped out to his seat but things gets worst as tyrants multiply as time goes by because of the way things are happening these days. For this present regime along with the other public officials and its cohorts are cowardly insane to bear the responsibilities of a public servant on which they oath before office. Unfortunately these bozos cannot lay their comfort of greed (that is for sure), instead of paying debts of former gluttons, they resort for another debt which we are paying right now on our income tax and our purchase tax to graze their voracity. They say taxes and death is inevitable which is not true only the latter. The sweeping vote of the Supreme Court Justice is going to worsen our situation in the coming days. The sweeping votes of those vultures in robe ratifies the fulfillment of another tax exploit to this bled dry nation, this idea has been festering our past leaders minds upon the pressure from IMF-WB and ADB especially to hold their financial credit if our government cannot accommodate to pay the premium of the national debt, so these assholes have to deal with the term. Based on what I can remember one of their proposal is the "two" child policy which did not materialized due to the interference of the church and some moralist jerks to the said issue because they're protecting our rotting moral value and the divine will command. Not because for the sake of the people to choose if they like to have a big family at the same time educating the consequences of overpopulation and for the protection of woman's right to their reproductive health. Then these suckers came up with the idea of ensuring their tight grip to the pedestal at the same time escaping the accountability of being one eyed monster as they place the load of their luxury to the people in the disguise of E-VAT. People who are subject to drowned cold, to be drained in this chimerical progress/civilization. This E-VAT will strike on us like a plague. Then there was this paid advertisement by the administration trying to persuade us that this tax is going to save our nation in the ocean of debts and discharge our future generation from poverty, what a fucking lie in their concern. The E-VAT is the preparation to the long delayed charter change game plan where the resolution is already done by the whorehouse of Representatives to conduct a constitutional assembly for charter change to alter and twist the Philippine constitution, they only need the pen of the Senate sluts. But that is just the formality of the senile legislative process because they can steal the show whenever they want with the strength of the statistical vote of their delirium or by the constitutional commission appointed by the chief executive to amend the constitution then they can proceed to nominate a beneficial prospect which is going to be the new crime minister (hmmm... I can sense the smell of tobacco). Denying the fact that the real problem of this

thirdworldnell is their arrogance of their clout, aside from this insipid capitalist and imperial tombstone. There's more to come from this courtesan who is willing to sell their soul just to stay in power till their doom. Prepare for the worst until all is lost. The bottom line here is this. This republic is built by lies, betrayal, corruption we got nothing to expect from these lame ass leaders but butcheries. We need to have a drawing board and make this scene a moving movement, armed ourselves with the new plot of strategies (easier said than done). We shouldn't just stop making kick ass noise or collecting some rare dead bands records which is destined to rot. The Philippines UG-DIY scene has a lot to explore rather than just sewing our patches on for a costume party or wearing a sporty shoes and jog the favor into the street, counting the years to be ranked as old school and be content in the label of hardcore kids or crusty punks. We can mount this struggle as one by giving ourselves a chance to reach each other and strip our intellectual ego of who's radical or not, let's wander hand in hand to shatter the bricks of anarchisms that put barriers to the path of true unified DIY community. We must not leave the walk alone to those left handed cogs or to some anarcho cliches, let's put this friendship into combat and fight the real enemy. Even though freedom only exist in our two fingers with the hands still chained in the method of conventional way, our minds and spirits should always be fulfilled with a threat like a ticking bomb. We still have to dream until all these nightmares comes to an end (keep on dreaming) for this battle is on everyday and living is not just an ordinary victory, but it still depends on the person who is willing to endure the long journey dearly for the virtue of the common good even if it has no promise of tomorrow. Here are some of the music who inspired me to illuminate this writing. NORA AUNOR "Mga Awiting Sariling Atin," CD. YOYOY VILLAME "Butchike," FRED PANOPIO "Pitong Gatang."

Send some hate clot words or make friends and correspond don't hesitate:
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RAYMOND

Hardcore Punk: A Consumer Culture

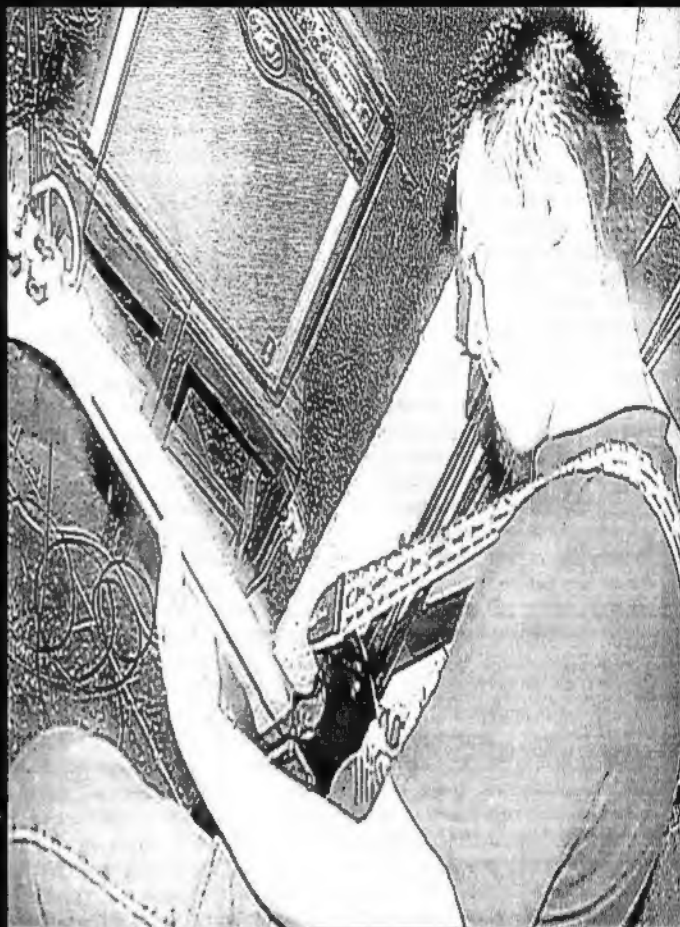
I WAS ASKED TO WRITE AN INTRODUCTION for Vitamin X CD that were released locally by your friendly hardcore punk Take Four

Collective and other good friends of ours, and it turns out to be that my work was too long and that my topic is too general to be an introduction for that said project. This is more like an article rather than an introduction. I wrote these words thinking why hardcore punk became so important to me. Primarily the music itself had an impact on my musical taste. I was looking for a soundtrack that will encourage me to go further and challenge me, and it looks like the music I once thought a satanic cult, is the one mostly relates to my personal outlook with life. Until I read one of their lyrics (Minor Threat, Dead Kennedys, 7 Seconds and many more), I thought to myself this is not just an ordinary music alone. There is so much more to say about our inspiration that continues us to consider hardcore punk to be not only just a music scene or worse to be just another consumer culture. The opportunity to be part of an international compilation of a straightedge bands, and the fact that most of the bands included are coming from other country other than the American punk scene, is really amazing and inspiring. Thanks to Robert of Commitment Records and Yann of the influential International Straightedge Bulletin all of these are possible because of their hard work and support to hardcore punk from all over the world. All of us here in Take Four Collective understand the importance of their work and their recognition to less fortunate scene. The inspiration that they gave us, and for that willingness to share this inspiration to others who has the least chance of getting their hands to this kind of dedication and sincerity are mainly the reason why hardcore is still relevant to us. Of course, that's only one of the many examples of enormous work done by the kids throughout our history and around the globe. I know you have your own stories to share. Take a look at how kids get inspired to think for themselves and question authority or society at large; a realization that you don't have to join to a religion for us to create a relevant change in our lives and without asking anything in return. How many times you hear a kid talking about losing money in organizing gig, making zines, activist work, without asking anything in return? Interesting to take note how hardcore punk became a driving force towards pursuing the struggle for human rights, environmental movements, feminism, animal rights and other important issues. I hope you don't take my words as another marketing gimmick of sort created by hardcore to sell records, but rather, as always, have an awareness if these shits make sense to you before you make judgments take these words as a warning, as I also wish that you will be inspired to think for your own, please don't think punk will save your life. Well, that's for you to realize eventually.

POSTSCRIPT: I am a trying hard writer, poet, political artist, editor, just wanted to scream out loud against a dying world and life itself, looking for an inspiration. If you have any interesting thing to share about your latest rediscovery of a vegan recipe, an animal rights essay that you submitted at your sociology class, a poem about human rights, a first timer short story creation on a boring Friday evening, please let me know. I am dying to hear from you and your work, but I have a special request, I want it in tagalog. Now get your pen and write all your shits. No more grammar check. I know we all have a hard time mastering English. Expressing itself is giving us a headache; now why not express our self in our native language. Sincerely, Raymond. skateordlexxx@yahoo.com

MONINA

At Work, At Prison
THE RAIN KEPT POURING, THE SOUND that it makes is like a hammering weight inside my head. Now I was trying to motivate myself by puffing my second smoke for the last ten minutes, don't get me wrong but I do care for my health, it's just that I love myself that much and I can't afford to die regretting not to have a smoke that'll soon kill me...do you see the logic? And I do not want to make you fart and yawn at the same time while trying to deal with what I have to say but you do have the option of skipping this page. Anyways, I was burning myself off I realized I am like the cigarette I am smoking. Exhausted, clueless, measly and fagged out. Have you ever been imprisoned? Have you walked through the cold tiles or I mean the cracked floors from one cell to the other? Bathe in your own sweat while trying to count the days to forever? Or stay awake at night playing with thoughts of yesterday's hard fought battle that you have lost? I have. The only difference is that I am walking through a delicately marbled floors carefully polished for a bourgeois perfection. The mind drilling routines that almost made me convulsed to death, while trying to count the hours to freedom. And yesterday's hard fought battle will just remain in your thoughts, buried like the thousand salary dispute letters. It's a filthy blood sucking business. They are everywhere. In the corridor, in the god damn toilet seat. Even my shit looks like them ordering me to get back at my post and die with crap hanging in my skinny ass. It's a modern day prison. It embodies all the negative adjectives that I could think of. It pretends to be something of prestige, but it rots to the core. All the sophistication, the money allurements is bullshit a sham. But then somebody said that it's not for the money. Now who the hell are you fucking kidding, who me? Why are we so scared to tackle things that is connected with money, maybe scared is not the right word, forgive me for the lack of a better word to put the context in to. Well, personally I do not see myself stressing the hell outta me just for the sake that I enjoy pulling out shit from somebody's ass, or because I enjoy it and I'm fine de'rdy about it...again who the hell are you kidding? I have a family to feed, let's face it, and I can't afford to see my mother working for me at this age, hell no. But then it's somewhat pity for us to have followed orders, what can you do if you don't have a choice; I know we all have the prerogative to make a choice until it's time. When is the time? Today, tomorrow, one thing's for sure I can't wait to get my parole. Maybe I'll never comeback. It's been tragic at prison and at the same time at work...huh? bu-hay_babae@yahoo.com



STANDFAST

I CONSIDER THIS INTERVIEW AS A EULOGY FROM THE BAND WHO ONCE SHARED THEIR ANGER AND INSPIRATION TO LIFT WOMEN ISSUES IN OUR OVERWHELMING MALE DOMINATED SCENE. A EULOGY FOR THE FUN OF BEING IN AN UNDERGROUND BAND MAKING THEIR OWN MUSIC AND SHARING THEIR MESSAGE THEY WANT TO CONVEY FROM US. BEFORE THE DEMISE OF STANDFAST IVE MANAGED TO GIVE MONINA SOME QUESTIONS TO BE FEATURED HERE IN REAL TIGHT CREW. BEING A CONTRIBUTOR FOR THIS SMALL FANZINE OF MINE WITHOUT A DOUBT I KNEW WHAT I GET FROM THIS INTERVIEW. IT WAS AN INTELLIGENT ANSWERS ENOUGH TO GET ELEVATED A JADED PUNK GUY LIKE ME AND FOR THAT THERES STILL INTELLIGENCE LEFT IN OUR LOCAL SCENE. FOR ONE LAST TIME LETS GIVE IT UP FOR STANDFAST AND READ ON. SO LONG AND FAREWELL. INTERVIEW BY JCS. PHOTOS WERE STOLEN FROM THEIR MYSPACE.

RTC: Please introduce yourself. What do you do in the band?

How long have you been involved in the local hardcore/punk community? What are your day to day live likes? Sorry, that it took a while to have this answered, you know what I've been up to, these past few days. I'm Monina, I'm the other vocalist for Standfast (the less noticeable one... haha)...I really don't count the years, but I could say, it's been pretty long, I've met some few people who have really influenced me, musically and I've listened to them, and they have really impacted my life and beliefs as well...these people are very few and I feel lucky to be a part of this wonderful community which I have considered as a comfort zone and it's just too overwhelming on my part to know these people! My day to day life is slowly starting to become a routine...now that sounds alarming, don't you think? hehe....well, I usually sleep during the day, that's because I work during the night, the only normal sleep that I get is only on Saturdays and Sundays, if I have time, I do surf the net, sometimes I find time to write, that is if I'm not that lazy, that's pretty much it.

RTC: Do you think hc/punk is still relevant as a counter-cultural movement? Why or why not? Do you do any activism outside of the band?

Of course. Every human being who finds a glitch in the so-called "normal type of society" will find a niche wherein he/she will be able to become his/her own self without the unsolicited judgment and mockery that one would normally get in a normal society, forgive me for using the word normal, I am not in any way excluding the hc/punk community as being normal, probably due to lack of words...but let's just put it this way, a lot of people may not find it acceptable especially when it comes to our views about different issues that most other people would overlook or would not even try to discuss at all. It's just so happen that it is hc/punk, a common ground, let's just say, wherein we dare to

question a lot of things and hesitate not, to raise objections or justify what we think is correct without the fear of being questioned. and it involves pure commitment, w/o is not so hard to establish if you are true to yourself as well as with the other people around you...as simple as that. fmb manila... (activism that is....) activism or not...i don't give a crap, as long as im able to extend every little help that I can, it's all good!

RTC: Does having a womyn in the band brings out womyn's issues? And since there aren't many womyn in the hardcore punk community compared to men how that does reflect upon the band's politic or social thing?

Yes...a lot. But actually I've been thinking, perhaps even if a band does not have any womyn at all, if everyone is sensitive about it, womyn issues will come out. Maybe if most of us will just throw away the fear of being labeled as a "sisy" or any other adjective that maybe associated with being weak, (as what most people would look at it) then we can all raise these issues and perhaps work out a solution and strengthen the bond between us all, whether you be a male or a female. The band itself is diverse. I have my own personal opinion about things, they have their own, and I can't speak in behalf of my band mates. Our views differ from one to the other. we have our own way of facing our own issues, politically we do differ, don't you think that it will kinda be lame and boring if we all have these equally nodding reaction about things? I have my way of facing my own issues, and to be honest it is so fucking hard to face it all by myself, it'll drive you close to kicking away your sanity. and believe me, I have found the truest and kindest hearts in this community. I have found it through my sisters and my brothers, so how can I not be so grateful.

RTC: It was a long time ago when we had a very brief talk through SMS and you have said to me that you don't want to concentrate anymore on womyn's issue. Why is that? Are you tired of this issue which never had any concrete solutions





despite your presence on this band and in this community? Would you care to elaborate more your reasons about this?

It was perhaps a vague desperation on my part. Sometimes you find yourself questioning everything you've done, and you'd even come to a point wherein you'd question the validity of it all, which is sad. You've been working so hard, you've risked almost anything that you could, you have given yourself for them to "ponder" on, but still you'd be standing on uncertain grounds, testing the waters, being careful who to trust most of all. The issue itself will start from me, individually...my issue will become her issue which will become any other sister's issue. You know what, it's funny, cause there were times when I'd find myself being all teary eyed when I think about it, I mean, these issues are very important to me, I grew up experiencing some of those issues, so it's disappointing sometimes, that nobody seems to care at all, nobody seems to give a shit, it's sad thinking that all they could see is how your breast juggles up and down while you're singing...huh!...Besides nobody said that one can only focus on just one topic or one sense of interest. I'm a human being, who does experience a lot of things, I can give my opinion on almost anything that any other human does experience. I can write about animal activism, labor problems, educational problem in the minority region...etc...etc...there are about a million issues or more that any of us can go ahead and rationalize in our own sense, it does not require you to be a male or a female, does not even require if you're old or young.... going back with the womyn issues... there is hope, I can see it, and if it becomes all too blurry again, as long as I'm alive, as long as I can write, as long as I can share my thoughts, I will do everything that I can to make that hope become reality in my own little part...and I'll share it with you, with everyone and to my future children too!

RTC: Would you consider that the main reasons people aren't satisfied with their life is the pressure they've got from things like televisions, advertisements, beauty magazines. Do you think these things has a great effect why people become so apathetic? I used to watch a lot of TV, to be honest, my sister's room is flooded with issues of COSMOPOLITAN magazines, which I grab and used to glance at the glossy pictures when I have a "dump session"...so having all these factors, we can consider one of the probabilities that I would become a "media clone", but I chose not to. So I really think that it is a personal choice if one becomes apathetic or not especially to socially relevant issues, or if one becomes satisfied with what he / she has. But it does play a big factor; it contributes to the mind boggling trigger pulling personal uncertainty that the sell out media offers. So it's really up to you if you'll bite into the frenzy. If you are emotionally

If you are emotionally stable, if you know yourself well, you'd probably stick up with your own free will. There was this one funny incident, wherein somebody told me to stop reading feminist zines 'cuz I could not stop my mouth commenting about how the media manipulates most of the people with a so-called pre-packed image, perhaps if I have done so, I'd be more worried of what I should wear the next day to work instead of educating myself about my reproductive rights.

RTC: Do you think there's a positive atmosphere around the punk circle or let say during a hardcore punk show? Would you agree sometimes punk can alienate someone involved with it because of the strict "social rules" we have like where we should buy things we need, that you can only talk about certain political topics etc.

Honestly, sometimes I do feel there is a little bit of a positivity, especially at some organized gigs. you'd feel somewhat placed in a corner, although nobody is discriminating you, you'd somehow feel like it, it's like having a some kind of an intellectual pre requisite...which is all BS, don't you think. It'll be a healthier environment if anyone can be themselves without being discriminated and criticized negatively just because they have a different view about certain things, or they wear their hair differently than the rest, etc...The so-called social rules are made because most people love to categorize almost anything. If it does not fit ones personal choice, if one does not look mostly like the rest then you'd be ostracized, w/c is funny. So in short, live up to what you believe in, your principles are not found under the soles of your sneakers, it's not dangling along with the heavy chains you have, hope we become less superficial. The punk community is a diverse community, hopefully also an understanding community. That no matter what your views may be, you'll still be respected. If we will be filtering out the topics, and censor everything just because majority will not agree, then perhaps this counter culture will never ever work. It's all about respect; respect and respect...just like how Aretha Franklin proudly says it!

RTC: The hardcore punk community was meant to be a place where diversity and communication were encouraged. Do you see this happening around our local scene as far it is concerned? Can you see that people involve in our local scene live up to this potential of our alternative to mainstream society?

Yes, although the future may seem unpredictable, (I guess that applies to most of us), but as far as I can see, this community has grown as a whole, when it comes to opening up with new different things, new people etc...as long as we are open and unselfish to share what we know to other people, and put aside the act of dominance, then it'll be all good. There are a lot of very good people in this community, as I've said, the kindest and the truest, so yes we can all live up to it, the very fact that we are not stopping to do what we are doing right now, be it considered as activism or not, just shows that we can all make this an alternative society.

WORDS THAT DEFINE
THIS LINE SIGNIFIES THE STRUGGLE BIG-
OTRY HYPOCRISY WILL DETERMINE THE WEAK
THEIR LABEL CAN WRECK US SOLIDARITY
HAS BECOME OUR WILL STATUST QUO IS OUR
STRUGGLE LET THE CRY FOR LIBERATION BE
HEARD LET YOUR STRUGGLE BE MY STRUG-
GLE LET YOUR BURDEN BE MY HARDSHIP
STANDFAST

CHOCOCOCO

WHAT DOES PROUD MEANS TO US? IT MAY VARY ON HOW WE LOOK INTO IT MOST OF THE TIME IT ALWAYS BONDS ON BEING ARROGANT. AND THAT IS NOT THE CASE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THIS HARDCORE PUNK OUTFIT. I MAY NOT KNOW THEM PERSONALLY BUT AFTER READING THIS FEATURE I GET THE FEELING THEY ARE THE MODEST PEOPLE THAT SURROUNDS IN OUR LOCAL UNDERGROUND MUSIC SCENE. AND IT SEEMS IT IS NOW A RARE CASE TO OWN A HUMBLING DEED AMONGST OUR FELLOW PUNKS HERE IN OUR LOCAL SCENE. HAVING A COUPLE OF BIG SUCCESS ON THEIR BELT LIKE RELEASING AN INDEPENDENT RECORD AND THE CHANCE TO PLAY OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY I THINK THEY OUGHT TO BE PROUD OF THEMSELVES AND I MAY ARROGANTLY PROUD TO CARRY THE TORCH FOR THEM HAHHAH. NOT TO MENTION THEY ARE THE ONLY LONGEST ALL FEMALE HARDCORE PUNK BAND THAT EXIST IN OUR BELOVED LOCAL UNDA-G MUSIC SCENE. THERE IS A TOUR DIARY FEATURED IN THE THIRD ISSUE OF IRH SO BE SURE TO CHECK THAT OUT IT'S A FUN READ AS YOU MAY GRASP THEIR MEMOIRS ON THAT SAID EVENT. THIS INTERVIEW IS DONE BY AGENT ARCH. YOU MAY NOTICE THIS INTERVIEW IS A BIT OLD BUT I THINK IT IS STILL USEFUL TO GET TO KNOW THE MEMBERS OF CHOCOCOCO. INTRO AND PHOTOS BY JCS.

RTC: Let's begin with the bands history, it's crew and age since 2000.

Choke Cocol was formed from the ashes of UOM, with qt on bass, tweety - guitars, Odessa on drums and Joy our ex-vocalist. The band's been on and off for some years. In 2004 the band is in search for a new vocalist, we found Sheryl and started making our own songs and in 2005 we did our first recording. Right now the band is working on a split cd release under Delusion of Terror/Takefour collective. Watch out for it, it'll be out soon! (ACTUALLY IT IS ALREADY OUT FOR QUITE SOME TIME NOW; YOU SEE HOW LAZY I AM! GOSH! - JCS)

RTC: The inspiration that made you form this unit.

Odessa: For me, I just wanted to play music and have some fun.

Tweety: The scene and its people.

Sheryl: Joining them and being new, it all started as a discomfited situation from dirty contradictions of segregation, but I realized that there's no such thing as blah blahs, just the passion and the space in the heart. The inspiration is living and dying and killing and creating. And obsessing. Hehe

RTC: I first saw your feat in CAVITE HCFEST, my spirit seemed to leave me when the first time I heard your deafening toll. Did you intend to sound like that from the start?

Tweety: No, I guess most bands don't start off with what they really wanna sound like, band's music evolve from time to time but in our case we want to stick to fast, loud and angry music & we're trying our best to put more creativity to it so that all our songs won't sound the same.

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Odessa: When our band was just starting, we were very puzzled on what particular genre that we're gonna play. We had no idea but the only certain thing was that we wanted to be different. Of course, it's not easy to be different when almost everyone in the scene is trying to be different. Besides the fact that we're clueless, we have different taste in music. I still have no idea of what we are doing. Hehe!

Sheryl: Some things are intended to have its own distinctions without any free-willed interventions. On my part I just let all things out and the only interference is upon my mood's dictatorship.

RTC: Being an all female unit, does it happen that you still didn't get an equal hand from the flexing arms dominated HCPunk scene? Aside from being in the band, what are the other things that you can share to our sisterhood worldwide?

Tweety: We're treated just like everyone else (or should I say equally) coz when we say equality it doesn't mean we're competing or proving to people that we can do what others can. We do our part just like everyone.

Odessa: Who hasn't? People has been ripped off, worshipped, discriminated, ass-kissed, heckled, offended and physically violated by others all the time. Not all my problems and achievements are caused by my "being a woman." I don't take pride on my gender or my race and I don't blame others for my own miseries. Do unto me what you will do unto your fellow men. Treat me with an equal amount of respect (not the Robin Padilla-ang-babae-dapat-ginagalang kinda lines) and by all means, hit me in the face if ever I was an asshole to you. But that's just me.

Sheryl: I don't care about gender here, I don't feel any degrading shits when it comes to the scene, I don't dare to call it that way, its everywhere, all the heck of shits in the world and the hellish life. As a person, if I am not treated



equally or if we and anyone, regardless of gender/race, I immediately get my shot gun and shoot all those shitfukks in the head. If you're good you're good, if you suck, you suck, it doesn't matter if you have penis or vagina. I will hate it more if humyn being just love you because you have something to share and it's unusual, there's no such thing as unusual, it was just something like that because already there are borders and standards in yer head, the like and love is a natural fondness which come out because there is something remarkable, and not really, making a difference isn't really a difference, it is existing, doing things that we love and loving all that's been in the milieu. All I care is when all, both the vagina party and the penis party to forget about it and start to have fun. To the past-oriented people to die so that we could live the utopian dream, bwahahaha...seriously, fuck gender yo! Aside from being in a band, my stupid head is upon art more and more and more, whatever it is. I write doohickies, opinlonating, and some discussion with open and close humyns, good convos with people, and many other imaginatively-driven moves. Devote the dominion time to reach out to more past-people and sisters and brothers of these hekks by familiarizing them through culture jamming, hehe... that the world which controls us are dying and our existence is also dying because we are stiff enough not to see more what the real life is. I am into zine, the so called open journal Hoax Conflict zine and the undefined Litter, Uncouth literary/personal zine, school pub which is the enemy of the admin, and some other organized cultural group. In anyway possible, I wish I could have done things better than what I've imagined and imagining still and better than just saying it, I wish there's always a chance.

RTC: I have an eminent respect when a band can manage to stand for long years, just like yours. Since you've been together for almost 6 years (am I right?), what are the things that you've discovered and learned from each other within that span? Did you ever come to a point, that you get burned out and call it quit?

Twety: Of course we're just normal people who get burned out sometimes; I can still remember we had a little drama where I almost want to quit the band. I really wanted the band to record but I didn't consider some of the members that was so selfish of me haha I guess karma was really quick we didn't make a quality record in 2005, I sucked on that record. I just hope jealousy or envy won't ruin the camaraderie of the band coz you know based on other all girl bands I know, one reason of breaking up is insecurity, all I know is when you're in hardcore/punk or basically involve in scene there's no room for any insecurity...

Odessa: Actually, it started 1999. So 7 years to be exact. But since we started this band, for the first half of it, the band has been on and off. So for me, it doesn't feel like it has been that long. Time flies when you're having fun. And yes, we went too close to breaking up but after that, we are stronger than ever because we appreciate each other more.

Sheryl: Though am with them maybe just some of that span, it's always new to me, I am always amazed. I almost lose them when depressions upon contradicting parties persisted, it could be my demise. I dunno, there's always low points and high points in the emotional content and discontent of me, being the slave of mood and emotion is a shit. I don't want this to end, or at least I don't wanna leave anything in nega mode. So I'd like to borrow some words from a friend. Let's (just) continue....

RTC: Can you consider yourself as an artist on a literary form?

Twety: We just love our craft so much

Sheryl: I dunno about me, I just love this whole thing. I die for art and my own literature, this musick... these creeps kill me more than anything else. I dunno how to function without it.

RTC: What is the typical day for you, when you're not playing as a band? Books or movies that you really love to the bones and why?

Twety: A typical day for me is waiting for text messages, you need a cp load?!! You just have to pay me on time! Kidding!! I am taking care of two dogs and I'm good at scooping dog poops. Hehehe a little exercise is also beneficial for me. I enjoy reading books about animals and I love to cook for myself. I am not working 9-5!

Odessa: That would be chores in the morning and spending time with my son until our siesta, then work at 5 p.m. (I have a small rehearsal studio), then when I'm home I have to have at least 4 hours of uninterrupted time for myself right after my son is asleep. That means, watching TV, listening to



music, and doing my whatever's on the computer. I could watch the movie Fight Club over and over again. Love it! Love, love, love it!

Sheryl: Well, struggling in school, in the streets and in the air of hallucination. In front of some pc to do some displacement, reading something, making something out of nothing, keeping trashes, making my bag the trashcan, lying, obsessing and digressing. Holding the logbook of our school publication and reading or writing something. Actually I just day dream and night dream most of the time. All the hell of imagination and trying to understand more other creatures. Playing with my feline friend and getting bitten, sitting at the gutter in front of our house every sundown waiting for the moon or the stars to appear. Maybe just some sloth period. That won't just be it. I want to read more books I wish I'd have more time and space in the air for some new views, Salinger or H.Hesse or K.Decrow or J. Zafra and a lot more-many-many, zines are far more interesting I guess nowadays. Ghost World and Elephant, slyet!! Just the two of so many movie thingies in the list and pending list.

RTC: What are the hit and miss of your life and the lesson that you've from it? Twety: I can't say I've learned a lot from life. I regret the days when I'm so focused in establishing relationships and previous jobs, I didn't realize then that there are lots of other things to do in life, I can say that I'm very positive nowadays I'm not taking things too complicated.

Odessa: You'll never know that something is a mistake until you learn from it. I've got plenty of it and I gotta tell you, it's the best teacher around! It'll slap you really hard!

Sheryl: The thing that just pop right now in my head is that I've not yet known that I am living the way I picture life from the eye in the head. Life is missing in itself because the world says we have to suffer in order to shit win the game of life. The world says it all in jeopardy, that I can't risk life itself to dig it more; though I know that I am not the only one in here. So I'd say I'd have to just deal with it in anyway and move on, I don't wanna miss anything though it's a crap, it is always part of the process, at least I've gain some euphoric moments with creatures inside my hypothalamic sensations, and it's something I don't wanna lose.

RTC: Will you agree with me, that life is in search of life itself?

Twety: Yeah who wants a life without spark in it? We are the captain of our ship we can do whatever we want with our life, we can be whoever we want to be.

Odessa: Yes. It's an endless journey.

Sheryl: I will. NOT! Just kidding.. hehehehe in life right now, there is no life, so lets search for life by killing the lifeless shits... nyehhehehe

RTC: If given a chance to have a second breath, are you going to spend it as it was before?

Twety: Yes, over and over again...but I'll omit some chapters to make it per-

fect. hahaha

Odessa: Yes. I don't regret anything that has happened in my life. Good things or bad things, I embrace them all. This time of my life, this is the happiest that I've been and I owe it all from all the stupid mistakes that I've made from the past. It taught me to live my life day by day, no holding back and it is the best feeling. Just imagine that you're gonna die tomorrow and you'll never see things the way you used to.

Sheryl: I don't think I want that second breath again. I don't wanna live again. I just want that imagination to boil in my head while am dead. hehe

RTC: While some entity want all the things for free in this scene, to justify their un mindful actions for being rad and political, I just wanna know your views on ANARCHISM, HARMONY, EQUALITY, FREETHINKER.

Twetty: I am not really a big fan of anarchism or any isms in this world. The world is so full of shit, a lot of pc's, don't call yourself an anarchist. If you have the money to buy beer but doesn't have money to pay entrance at u.g. shows.. It's u.g. show not some show in a posh bar.. Show organizers are also normal people, they are not rich kids who can just put up a show anytime they wanted to, sound equipments used in shows aren't free. It's not a crime to use money. If you have it why not spend it wisely or on good purpose. You're afraid what will your friends say if you pay?? Why hitch on PUV's?? PUV drivers are working so hard to feed their families. Those feet are made for walking, right? Hitch-hiking is ok as long as you're not troubling drivers whose income depends on the passengers. We're all struggling here, so I just hope that people will open their mind.

Odessa: It's gonna be too long to give my views on each word but what I know is, they all have to be done within ourselves before we expect others to unto us. It's the only key to achieve it's closest possibility.

Sheryl: I am sick of names and labels, though anarchism amazes me, its flaws and misconceptions, my enemy. There is more to live for, I'd like to just don't stick with anything others lay as something in the upper level. Fuck that hierarchy. Everything desirable will follow if digested in the alternative way of living. There's always something else besides the peripheral view whats now, the one we can see and the one shown unto us. I question those in the authority, I question more myself.

RTC: With miscommunication, inter-personal politicks and advance judgment without proof. What can you say about the elite feel for HCpunk SxE community? Or am I the only one who's taking this things up with my unpaid hallucination, do I need a slap in the face? Hope that I can make a bridge by slashing out the wall between the word HC/punk.

Twetty: I still can't understand why some people thought that people in hc/punk sxe are rich especially here in the Philippines, did someone ever asked where did he/she get those band shirts? Or shoes? Maybe it's from thrift shop you'll never know unless you get to know the person...people shouldn't be judged by the way they look. We all have differences and something to say about each other, but we should remember that we're all facing hardship living in the 3rd world. I think the elite feel for hc/punk or sxe is so lame. We



should face the reality that bashing each other wont help each one of us. We'll be no different from the typical Filipino chismoso's and chismosa's if we're all gonna judge each other from the way we look or who are friends are...if we're all open minded we wouldn't be judgmental. Why not try to approach the person directly so all of us will sleep soundly at night. hehehe

Odessa: What about it? I never was a fan of segregation especially in our scene. We are a teeny tiny community and we can't even stand being with each other? If we are as open minded as I think we are there won't be any of this. This is just another miscommunication, pride and insecurities eating our brains up. There could be thousands of reason why we are the way we are. We can co-exist with zero-brained masses but can't with our own people? C'mon. I know it's possible. I am a drunk-ass carnivore who is married to an sXe vegetarian whose son dances to hair-raising Spongetola song!

Sheryl: I don't know about that. I am on for both, or I will just say, its just a one scene for me. I hate it when people make you this or that, say you're this or that: punk, hc, how can anyone be like one? Blurring aside, I know that sort of feeling, but I feel it everywhere, being someone in this thirdworldhell, I just wish that people don't view us into something regarding what we have, or what the money or what the puking standard can split in our faces. The bourgeoisies are just the victim of reality; I cannot just blame or laugh at them lumpens. What I can just do is convey something which will ridicule their heads, hehehehe, squeeze the culture. Sorry for rambling that much..

RTC: Is there any positive things that you still care about, with the way of things that is happening these days?

Twetty: I always hope for a better world.

Odessa: Of course. I'm still alive, aren't I? Hehe! And I have a wonderful son.

Sheryl: all I want to think of are positive things in the air, I don't wanna burn in this hell as I mull over more on the dark sides of the picture, in the simplest way I can imagine, there is always something delightful in feeling in anyway and in everywhere, some good convos with people are far more great factor to digest the whacking insinuations of reality.



RTC: Any words of inspiration, just to keep our hopes in this clenched fist life.

Twetty: Don't complain find a way to make things better.

Odessa: Embrace who you are, don't let labels and genders keep you from doing things that you love to do and expresses the real you. We are not our genders; we are not what we listen to. We, too, are individuals who are unique in our own special way. Don't let the isms tell you what to do, what to think, and what to feel for diversity sake. Think before you scream sloganistic words from your idols that you look up to. It takes hard work to reflect on your own self but I think the first step is to unlearn all the possible cultural, religious, social and racial influences. Question everything. Unlearn, baby! Unlearn! Hehe!

Sheryl: I will only lie when I say any sleazy(?) luminosity around, there are dark slides in front of me ryt now, everywhere. So I say, never mind the me here, just mind what makes sincerity and truthfulness and love and passion and some other tools, not just why love has been considered into something evidently unfeasible. Thanks yo Archie! And thank you!!!! Evil hugs!!!! Hahahaha.

REVIEWS

BREAKFAST INSOMNIA #0 The inspiration comes from the fatalism of Asiong Salonga and the notorious and critical streets of Moriones, Tondo, the fortune of holding the craziness of Senator Miriam Defensor. Elevated from the wonders of offense strategy of the legendary coach Sonny Jaworski here comes the wit of Breakfast Insomnia. It is inevitable for me to give this a bias review because Archi is my friend and the fact his zine inspires me. He was supposed to be a co-editor of RTC but instead he decided to do one of his own what a bloke just kidding man. You can call B.I. as a personal zine since most of the contents in here were all random thoughts of the editor. From his introduction he expressed his passion for the importance of zines in the underground scene we hold dear so much. The writings in here are eloquent collection of sentiments from the mind of the editor. It's either you agree or disagree with it. As for me there are parts that I agree totally with it. The layout is cut and paste mayhem with all the texts are typewritten to make it more spontaneous. This is not recommended for those showbiz oriented punks because you'll get offended by the sarcasm of Archi. I advise before reading this call up some friends to take a one gram of shabu and a couple of hits from your gravity bong to enjoy Breakfast Insomnia. There is a very short review section with direct to the point description. I recommend a refinement on the layout department for an easy reading. c/o Archie 1306 - C Masinop St., Tondo, Manila 1012 Philippines.

CONFRONT #2 Another zine coming from the ghettos of Caloocan City Hardcore where human and dog feces scattered around the streets and the smell of sewers are ordinary from the smell senses of the neighborhoods, where big bellied thugs are drying up their liver to death for an afternoon till midnight drinking spree, where small time shabu hustlers gathers around waiting for their desperate customers. Confront is a music oriented small publication mainly consists of band interviews. There are short chats with local bands Guerra Mundial and Paraconfront. The foreign combos featured in here are Guided Cradle, Chosen By God and Grenzlinie. I never heard any of them so this is good information to actually know them. There are random thoughts scattered through the pages. The layout is sloppy done sometimes its hard to read it but it does not hide the enthusiasm of Editor Marco. A little bit of polishing on the layout part for the next issue it will be good. Well it has a lot of reviews. c/o Marco Flores Block 36 Lot 28 FI Phase III Kaunlaran Village, Caloocan City 1409 Philippines.

I REMEMBER HALLOWEEN #1, 2, 3 When Freddy Krueger, Jason and Pinhead had the opportunity to open up a wicked portal inside the bedroom of Dane Cortes they invite him for a serious tête-à-tête and pervade him to do a publication to devote his fascination and passion for the underground music scene. Then after assembling with those freaks and keeping an eye on the whole franchise of Shake, Rattle and Roll he decides to give his zine an aptly moniker, thus bringing the birth of I Remember Halloween coming from the ashes of Slacker Booger. For me I honor I.R.H. as a staple zine in our local scene. The highlight for issue number one for me is the interview of Chris Dodge. I am a fan. It's nice to read the humble answers of Chris. The second one is the interview with Devon of Conquest For Death. I would never get to know he has a new band if not for this feature. For the second and third

issue there is a Bystorm and Choke Cocol tour diary. An enjoyable memoir for both bands sharing their experiences having the chance to go outside the country to promote their music and enthusiasm for the hardcore punk scene. This is a great achievement for them and also for the whole local underground movement putting our country on the hardcore punk map I urge you to take hold all the copies of IRH for a near sum up of how superior this zine really is, to seize the spontaneous devotion of Dane. I am also impressed by his review section because the majority of the stuffs he looked at were local releases which for me are huge. Oh by the way the second issue has a cover of Javier Bardem coming from the film No Country For Old Men, and he said to me very few people noticed that cover. Maybe a future interview in support of him here in RTC is not a bad proposal at all. c/o Dane Cortes #28 Unit B-3, Road 13 Pag-Asa, Quezon City 1105 Philippines.

SEVEN INCHES TO FREEDOM ISSUES # 3, 4, 5 During these days it's hard to seek an acquaintance in the American underground music scene. I don't see what the grounds are for that. So, it's a fulfillment on my part I had a brief correspondence with Joe Lachut SITF stirs me to deal the pending work here in RTC. You can capture the keenness of the editor by doing this publication. SITF reminds me of the zines way back in the 90's because of its cut and paste mayhem layout but not in a chaotic way I really used to love during the days. But don't be turned off by that. It has an amount of spirit for the DIY. There is a section called "My First Record" stories for every issue. The contributors tell their account on their chosen record. The other portion is called "Best Record Ever?!" This one shows the appreciation of the editor for a certain 7". There are helpful tips on how to start a label and distro and DIY tour tips, a discussion on how to promote your band on a DIY viewpoint. In issue #5 there is a hilarious interview with the band called Civic Progress who condemned the integrity of Crimethink its funny because it comes from their viewpoint and them being an American. In a sense SITF is a music oriented fanzine. But that's not a problem for me as I have fun reading this. I don't know if Joe is still active so I'll just write his e-mail address in here and drop him a line if you're interested to get in touch with him. hiszeroisgone@yahoo.com

AGGRESSIVE DOG ATTACK S/T CDR It's funny how they made the package for their cdr. It is like the bootleg cdr you see from the streets of Recto. Anyway A.D.A. is kind of "famous" in our local scene. They've been known for their brand of short, fast and loud powerviolence noise. This cdr has only ten songs of pure adrenalin rush mixed with occasional snotty punk rock then it will bursts again on powerviolence attack. It is a very short listening experience in here but it will give you an urge to listen to it again. There is no other information in here so it's hard to make any contact on this besides the latter description I've mentioned above. They don't even bother to write any contact address besides the track list. One thing I've noticed in here is that it has a coherent live recording (I guess) because A.D.A. is notoriously known for their old demo tapes which really had a bad recording. D.I.Y. equals poor! If you are interested try to find them in myspace. All local bands have their myspace shit.

CO-ARSE 2nd Demo CDR This is the sophomore demo cdr from Sampire core pioneer. There are seven songs in here four originals and three cover

songs. As we all know Co-Arse is the overseer when it comes to Swedish raw punk here in our local scene and they just keep getting better and better. The live recording for this is more coherent than the first one and it suits them well. You can clearly hear Heijie's adlibs which is always punishing and that's the moment I like the most from this band. Darwin's gruff style vocals will surely invite you to read his short lyrics about the lies of religion and social issues with personal bent. By the way I was really stoked how they've become heavier the last time I've watched them play live they somehow remind me of Driller Killer. I hope when they plan to release another material they will stick to make more compositions of their own rather than relying on cover songs. I know they have enough experience to do that. P.O. Box 3299/1099 Manila Philippines

DEVASTATE Demo CDR Devastate is a quartet from Lucena giving us a dose of hardcore shit. I was pleased when I got the chance to listen to this. Thanks to Archie's ninja instincts he founds Devastate wandering around the province of Lucena. There are six original songs in here. The recording is not that clear but it does hide not the sincerity. Maybe because of limited financial budget but still you can decipher the aggressiveness they want to bring and not to mention some of the cool groovy parts of their songs. This is straight up hardcore but not on the vein of youthrow sound. Don't expect any technical parts on their music at least it is not sloppy done. I really like this in fact I wanted more from them. My only complain on this is the lack of lyric sheet which is an important factor for a band in order for the listener to know the message they want to convey since most hardcore bands do scream in an incoherent fashion. Anyway I am giving an eye for this band I hope they're still around. devastate_edge@yahoo.com

GUERRA MUNDIAL Demo CDR I think I am force to give this a favorable review since some members of this band are my friends. I am afraid if I give this a lame ass synopsis I think they would chop off my head and put it in a black trash bag and throw it in a fucking river else where. You see how serious these cats are when it comes to their craft. So you better be down niggaz. Anyway I have this habit when waking up in the morning I am looking for a music that will elevate me to start my day. This one is included to my personal soundtrack for that manner. It doesn't matter if this has only four songs I can still press play to listen to it over and over. Guerra Mundial falls into the Swedish raw punk realm of genre we have in the underground scene. It is heavy on the down tuned drop D open chords of Banjo and it comes along with short and sometimes trebly adlibs of Lee and balance it with those solo crunchy bass of Mario matches it with the loud primitive style pounding of Jiar this genre has been known for. Sing along with Archi's nasal gruff style vocals to his dramatic lyrics. There is a quote from George Orwell on the lyric sheet about a war. I think this quote represents the politics of their vocalist rather than the band as a whole. Orwell reflects on his book 1984 the negative utopia he grasped during the time he wrote it. This negative utopia is apparent on Archi's lyrics. Like for example a line like this "you can't kill me I'm already dead" (Dead And Charred). Some of the topics descend on the horror of poverty stricken country like ours, the infamous criticisms of superficial beliefs in religion. "Vehement ward in creed cast all the grace of contempt...maggot swine from holy ghost of war" (Fear Of The Unknown) he totally hit the nail from it with metaphors. Sometimes you may find Guerra Mundial as repetitive. I regard that is their beauty but it is not their validity. If Friedrich Nietzsche is still alive expect some street fighting with him and Archi. www.myspace.com/deadcharred

KILL RATIO s/t CDR When finding a soundtrack to uplift my spirit every time I woke up in the morning is not an easy task for me. As I become a vulnerable freak I sometimes find hard to improve myself. But here I am giving my appreciation for this audio CD. In retrospect I gave this band a lame commentary from a gig report I've done in my first issue and I feel shit about it. As I've listened to this I realized they deserve better than that. I think it's not too late to redeem myself. I included them now to my soundtrack. You can call them d-beat hardcore, a crust band, an emotional band. You can grasp all that sub genres to Kill Ratio but I don't necessarily pay attention to that. The melodic prowess of Boyet and

Dane is the one that really grabs my attention. The rhythm section of Kimmi (later replaced by Mario of the notorious gang Death Wish Unit who represents the radical and subversive attitude of Pasay City Hardcore) and Nani are well matched up to create such agitating sonic assault. Zepol's high shrieking will surely summon you to lift your fist in the empty sky and bang your head while you devour on his haiku lyrics. Check out the opening track (The Parade) and be excited with its sad intro of guitar plucking, simple pounding of drums with occasional blast beat and its short and emotive lyrics. midnightcadence@yahoo.com

NSA Discography CDR I think NSA existed during the late 90's. They've released a bunch of cassette tapes during that time. I remembered seeing their stuffs listed on the catalog of the legendary MYO DISTRO and I never got the fortune to avail those tapes. For me this discography is not a bad idea at all. There are 34 tracks in here and the recording is very raw. It only warrants the sonic attack of the band and it doesn't matter to me some of the tracks in here are unlistenable. Even though it has a raw sound you can still decipher what is going on in their compositions. NSA captures the exact measure of traditional Filipino punk hardcore (TRC Records era) very reminiscent to Dead Ends. Most especially the tracks were Ab is the one doing the vocals and bass chores.

FINALLY, I'VE MANAGED TO BUY MYSELF A CHEAP TURN-TABLE FROM A THRIFT SHOP HERE IN CALOOCAN CITY. SO, YES SEND IN THOSE REVIEW COPIES OF YOUR VINYL AND I PROMISE TO GIVE IT AN EVENHANDED EVALUATION. AND YES YOU'RE ALL CORRECT I LIKE RECEIVING FREE STUFFS TO EXPAND MY COLLECTION OF VINYL AND I THINK I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE GUILTY ABOUT IT. CRUCIFY ME NOW. CRUCIFY ME AND BURN MY SOUL. LET ME SUFFER THE PAIN OF HEI L. JCSI!

DOWN TO AGONY Requiem Por Un Mundo 7" I bought this piece of wax from a shop in Cartimar. This 7" vinyl has four songs of emotive down tuned d-beat hardcore coming from a five piece crust band from Spain. I say emotive because of its mid-tempo music they're producing and the way the screamer delivers his vocals as evidence of his disgust to a lot of negativity happening in our world today. The music is not that innovative but it has its own appeal for me to get into them. All lyrics are written in Spanish and it only has a Japanese translation included. Fans of His Hero Is Gone and Tragedy will surely like this. This is a collective release from five different labels so I'll just write down the web address of the band. www.downtoagony.tk

MERKIT/DEMIAN SPLIT 7" Usually when I am reviewing a record I start with my nonsensical ranting with anything that comes in my mind, as if I am warming up to actually get my point for the exact stuff involve. I don't know what the core of my routine is for that. Anyway I never consider I would ever get a probability to review vinyl releases like this because I never got the fortune to buy a turntable not until now. Merkit is from Florida, USA who plays a brand of hardcore that is really tight with 90's vibe into it. No they are not metalcore if that is what you're thinking. They are fast, aggressive, stop and start kind of hardcore with a pissed snotty vocals. Lyrics are well thought out with a little bit of sarcasm on issues like rape in the scene and the manipulation of capitalism who takes advantage on cheap labor. Their third song in here is simply titled "D-BEAT" which is hilarious taking the classic d-beat formula: screamed haiku lyrics about war verse, chorus, verse and then a bombastic short and trebly adlibs. Demian is from Brazil who plays a powerviolence genre with a little bit of punk rock influence. Bands in Brazil have this familiar sound I've recognize which is hard to describe it has this primitive style into it. All their lyrics are written in Portuguese with direct translation. It concerns on subject like having a tyrant in hardcore scene I can relate to that because it is now happening in our local scene. Being lazy is also a cause of apathy, the FTAA agreement and the evilness of Mao Tse Tung. It has six songs of short and fast adrenaline without losing any kind of direction musically on one side of a 7". The last time I check from the link of Joe this one is already sold

out. This is a keeper.

MERKIT/ROBOTEER SPLIT 7" Here we are again for another sonic beating of Merkit. It's the same description I've gave them from their split with Demian. It has two original songs that bear a fast hardcore type with stop and start, a d-beat fraction for you to be carried away by their sentiments. The lyrics are well thought out and it includes an unswerving explanations. Their issues deals with the distorted coverage of the media on the subject of suicide bombings well they don't necessarily agree with these acts. They're pointing out the people who are doing this are the oppressed and out of desperation they resort for this to react for those they see as their oppressor. Instead of covering this action as fanaticism why not cover the cause of their real situation. And also about the passive convenience the American land has. It questions the relevance of having the same stores, restaurant etc. that leads to a dull existence. They end up their side with a couple of cover song by the band Left For Dead. For the other side of this vinyl we have the sharpness of Roboteer. I would describe their sonic assault as chaotic fast hardcore. There are blast beat parts in the company of some melodic elements. I may compare them to Ice 9 but they're more heavier. Their lyrics have this personal bent and I think it's about the redundancy of what we are doing in our existence and the endless hostility we have in our own selves. I dare myself to call them emo-violence in a way. Their sonic onslaught has this heartfelt effect on me.

BLOODPACT/TIME X SPLIT 7" This is a very old release that both bands I guess have already gone. I think this is the eponymous release of Bloodpact. It has four songs of really tight and high-speed hardcore you will ever listen to in our entire career in hardcore scene. I was really blown away how rapid their onslaught on this vinyl. The opening track launch in a menacing feedback and it bursts out in a manic seconds that talks about vivisection in a sarcastic approach. Is it really true even the Nazis forbid vivisection? The last song has a more alarming speed like they just shouted at you the difference is it has accompanying instruments. Time X is a straight edge quartet from Portugal. They are a youthcrew hardcore band with a sincere attitude. I know there's a lot of condemnation this genre has received during the days. But I really adore them. They have all the formula this type of music has to offer. Harmonized/shouted and back up shout vocals start and stop next to the loaded melodic ability. Issues they addressed in here is about the superficial beauty the pharmaceutical companies promotes in society, the elitist treatment to straightedge, the abuse we're doing in Mother Nature and the manipulation of corporate companies in our society who uses child labor. Hunt this one down.

MURDOCK/MOTHERLESS SPLIT 7" Murdock plays an impassioned post hardcore and it may line in the direction of emo and screamo before it becomes a cheesy genre. They are relentless and a bit chaotic sometimes. Their music is simple nothing too fancy which works for me. The vocal section in here is memorable it's in a manner of high shrieking and has a singing part. And bands who has a line like this in their song: "we were only world apart but never far away," "I'll leave my old paths behind" and "you saved me from myself" are huge for me. This side of Murdock has become my soundtrack last year when I was really depleted at that time. The Motherless track on the other side begins their song in vague collages of noise samples before they initiate their version of post hardcore that is nearly on the border of rock influences and a connection on a pop aesthetic which is fine with me. A little bit of link to what Fugazi and Rites Of Spring did with hardcore. Unlike Murdock who still has this hard-hitting side on their music Motherless is on a mellower part that for some it will be annoying and for my case it works for me just fine. I don't know if there are other releases Motherless and Murdock has on their belt. Please give me information for these bands I don't want to be stuck on their only songs in this white vinyl.

MORTAL COMBAT/LAST MINUTE SPLIT 7" Another vinyl I bought from a shop in Cartimar. Mortal Combat is a quartet band from Indonesia who plays a frenzied powerviolence. On their side they've contributed six original songs heavily stirred by the madness of Charles Bronson. They've also emulated the classic layout style of Mark McCoy which for me is great with an inserted picture of James Dean. Despite

the far out comparison I've give to them Mortal Combat has its own appeal to get attention from the die hard fans of this genre. You'll be blown away by the intensity of this combo delivers as soon as you put the needle on. You'll be damned if you will not get carried away by the sheer sound of the repetitive guitars as well as occasional adlibs, fast pounding of drums and the intensified high shrieking vocals bellowing vague lyrics about the importance of DIY ethics, elitist attitude, taken for granted approach for our surroundings and the negative news the media feeds on us. Last Minute on the other side is also from Southeast Asia I don't know exactly where because they don't bother to put any kind of contact address. Anyway, they have the same frenzied style like Mortal Combat but they are more punk rock sounding for me and a start and stop fashion thrown in their song structure. The vocal section is delivered by a woman and a back up from her band shouting ambiguous lyrics about rape (pointing out that masturbation is not bad and an alternative to rape), incest, and using sex by deceiving your partner and a direct song about food not bombs and thank goodness for putting brief explanations if not for this I'll be ruined. Contact Thrash Steady Syndicate for this: c/o Muhammad Fairuz Bin Taswadi, Blk 204, Marsiling Drive, #07-208, Singapore 730204 <http://thrashsteadysyndicate.cjb.net>

V/A: TIMES STILL HERE 7" Another old release I don't know if the bands in here still exists. This is a documentation of straight edge bands who resides in Portugal hardcore scene. Bands included are Day Of The Dead, Through These Eyes, New Winds, Mad Rats, Fight For Change and Time X. They play the same genre which is youthcrew style hardcore with the exception of Day of the Dead which has this emotive touch and a melodic part to boot on their sonic attack. New Winds for me is the standout on this compilation that is akin to Ignite. They have seize the exact melodic ability of Ignite and blending it with harmonized vocals hollering the message of betraying the DIY ethics using the same greedy methods of major label in promoting hardcore. Of course you already know I am also fond of Time X judging from the review I gave above from their split with Bloodpact. Hunt this one if you are an enthusiast of this genre and you will not regret this like I am.

WAR VICTIMS "KRIGSOFFER EP" 7" This 7" is not very hard to describe by looking only from the cover sleeve that has photo collages of maimed victims of war and children who are suffering from famine. Not to mention their band logo who has the same classic lettering of Discharge logo. On the other side of the cover you'll see the band photo wearing the shirt of their favorite bands namely Discharge (of course), Disfear, Disgust, Extreme Noise Terror and last but not the least Disrupt. And their faces were edited and they changed it into a skull for a well understanding they mean business. As I mention those massive bands on their shirt I'll assume that would be their influences. But hey despite the trendiness of War Victims I like them. Even though they're not that innovative their approach still takes hold of me. As of typing this review I am listening to my downloaded album of E.N.T. and later on the vinyl of War Victims. They're heavier to Discharge but they followed the same famous method verse, chorus, verse, trebly short adlibs, primitive fashion pounding of drums and dual vocals yelling their sentiments about war and apocalyptic visions on the current state of our world. Most of their lyrics are written on their native language. Oh before I forgot they are from Sweden. And there's a classic quote coming from John F. Kennedy "Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind." You can contact War Victims in modern way, www.myspace.com/warvictims

V/A: BLAST FROM THE FAR EAST #3 CD At last we have this five way split in possession. I've never heard the past documentation of this CD. This third offering concentrates more on the bands who plays the grindcore genre of course on the Far East part of Asia. So you freaking blokes out there in the United States we do have a tight underground scene here in the Philippines it is not only Japan who has. The first band who opens up this compilation is PROLETAR from Indonesia. They offer us nine songs plus a cover a cover of down tuned grindcore with some good d-beat parts and a melodic tone into it. Then it will burst on

the blastbeat frenzy followed by the dual vocal attack. The lyrics ranges from the topic of our environment, pessimism, emo bashing and the never ending hate for George Bush. The lyrics is incoherent for me to have a grasp on it like their opening track Grind Your Soul Green Your Earth. How can anyone love their surrounding if they don't have a soul? In fact those people who are already destroying our ecological system don't have souls anymore, right? I think the crew of Proletar is still caught up in the direction of grindcore scene who likes to criticize the emo kids. I mean Godstomper has already done that sarcastic approach for them. It is time for us to leave them and mind our own business. No matter how many songs we will make for them they will continue and keep on making lots of money than us. Though their song "Last Hope" got my attention for its surreal tendency the lyrics has and I am down in a song that has a pessimistic message. Despite the incoherent topics some of the songs of Proletar have they are good because for me mixing crust and grind is a plus for me. To be followed by them is none other than **FALLEN WORLD** from Singapore. This one is energetic and manic. Fallen World is fast to the max showing us the adequate talent they have. I would describe them as grind/powerviolence because they have some decent hardcore touch thrown in their speed up fury mixing it with groove style as if it is inviting you to bang your head. Along with the dual vocal assault most especially the one who has the shrieking manner. He is like urging you to have some movement while listening to them. Chosen subject of their lyricist comes from the abusive authority of the police, victims of terrorism, poor masses, questioning the existence of god etc. the lyrics is short and straight to the point with enough clarity to get the message instantly. I am keeping an eye for this band they made a mark on me. Before I proceed I am asking all of you to have a standing ovation because we are now on the part of our very own noise terrorist **PARACONFLICT**. Since I know the members of this band and being my drinking buddies who has an enormous amount of tolerance drinking lots of Gran Matador and Redhorse it is impossible for me to give this an unbiased review but fuck it I love them. Some of the songs contributed in here were taken from their demo which I reviewed last time. I will say they are on the borders of combining grindcore and crust. That weight is evident when Heinjie is doing those classic adlibs he has been known for. Paraconflikt is raw and fast but they're not doing it in a sloppy way. They also have time to put some groovy parts inviting you to bang your head. The crucial part for this band is their lyrics. It is highly political with direct message and it bounds from the subjects of media manipulation, the living condition we have here in the Philippines, the evils of technology that can harm our ecosystem and humans as well, against the producing of nuclear weapons. A couple of songs in here will really catch our attention. These songs are Reality and ICBM War. The vocals on this were all done by Rigor of the almighty Disabuse. For this he made his mark as one of the excellent screamer we have here in our local scene. Like in the song ICBM War he fit in a very dark death metal style vocals spitting out his disgust for this nuclear weapons. While in the song Reality which becomes an anthem for them he squeeze in a fired up high shrieking fashion reminiscent to Mark McCoy of Charles Bronson as being disgusted by the fact that it is really hard living in a country like Philippines. I've heard there are complains regarding the quality of recording they have in here. For me there is nothing wrong with the recording. I am not saying it's a top-notch recording but you can still decipher on what direction Paraconflikt is leading musically. I mean Agathocles has made their band as a staple for the grindcore scene but they released some stuff that has a poor recording and they still get the respect and credit they deserve. I mean how about the effort of this band to record these songs to be able to be a part of this project and showing a little bit of appreciation on that is not that hard to give. It's kind of sad that bands here in the Philippines were being judged because of mere quality recording issues. I can proudly say there are bands and individuals who still have the passion to make our scene a moving movement and being concluded like this is kind of far out. Anyway let us now continue to the part of **SELFMADEGOD** from Malaysia. It is hard for me to make any fair approach on them because they don't bother to include the lyrics of their songs. This would be brief as I am only giving a comment on what music they are making. It is inevitable to compare them with Fallen World because of the similarity they have. They're also fast and strenuous they are also in the territory of mixing

powerviolence and grindcore with those start and stop which adds to the energy they are making they have also this non-stop blastbeats all through out their songs. **FAILURE TRACE** from Thailand closes up this compilation. They have the exact moniker on this because they fail to trace a little bit of words from their songs. I guess it doesn't concern them that the important is the noise they're making. I had a hard time to pinpoint what exactly they're doing. Yes I know they are grindcore but there is a straightforward old school hardcore going on in them which I really like. Dare I say they are influenced with the way Infest did. I mean the way the vocalist delivers his style when they are not on the verge of doing that blastbeat chaos. All in all better to check this split and enjoy all the bands in here. This is a great documentation.



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DEATHWISH UNIT

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